



School Prospectus



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A Pioneering History...

Scholastica was established in 1977 by **Mrs. Yasmeen Murshed**. It was founded with a mission to provide a balanced and well-rounded education for all of our students, using English as the primary medium of instruction but placing equal emphasis on Bangla.

Scholastica's mission is to build curious, knowledgeable and caring young individuals, who will be equipped to tackle head-on the challenges of our modern-day "global village". They will aspire to become responsible citizens, who will embrace and respect people from other cultures and walks of life, and contribute meaningfully to society.

Our customized curriculum builds the knowledge, skills and attitudes that students need to succeed in their academic and professional careers after school. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves, their peers and their teachers in a setting that gives them confidence and builds their skills to think independently.

Scholastica has built a reputation as a pioneer in education in Bangladesh being one of the first local private schools to...

- offer English-medium instruction
- provide science labs for secondary school students
- develop custom-built campuses with numerous facilities, including auditoriums, a swimming pool and numerous hard courts
- forge international connections through sports and trips abroad
- hire foreign experts to develop curriculum
- provide mandatory, international-standard training for teachers and management
- introduce sophisticated technology to manage data and information systems
- launch an internship program
- introduce multimedia technology in classrooms
- introduce professional school counselors

All these firsts have been achieved through the vision, hard work, passion and dedication of the faculty and management of Scholastica.





And a Vision of Excellence...

Scholastica will continue to be a pioneer in education in Bangladesh. The management of the school pursues development and improvement relentlessly, and this makes Scholastica truly unique.

What makes Scholastica one of the premier schools in the country? We believe it is:

- our emphasis on training for faculty and management
- our attention to whole child development through extra-curricular activities
- our respect for each and every student who is treated as an individual
- our aspirations to implement international best practices in teaching
- our investment in technology to enhance the quality of our services
- our development of custom-built campuses that boast excellent facilities for sports, visual and performing arts and leadership opportunities
- our efforts to introduce innovative new programs such as counselling services, character education and critical thinking courses

These are the principles on which we continue to improve and develop our academic program, facilities and services. And these are the principles that underlie our success and excellent reputation today.

Academics

Our Educational Philosophy

In Scholastica, we implement modern, international best practices in education. We believe in teaching that...

- is student-centered
- is thought-provoking and creative
- takes into account the needs of individuals
- prepares students for the real world.

We teach our students to be...

- independent learners: we don't tell them everything, we encourage them to learn for themselves





- curious: we encourage them to ask questions and challenge us and each other
- critical thinkers: we ensure students understand what they are learning, rather than just memorizing what the teacher has said
- willing to take challenges: we push students to think at higher levels and apply their skills, rather than being intimidated by new types of questions or tasks
- creative: we encourage students to apply imagination and think outside-the-box, and we reward students who go beyond the book or what they have been taught

All subjects are taught using interactive and activity-based methods. Asking questions is always encouraged and students are often given opportunities to share their own opinion and think critically about the issues at hand. Important skills are also developed through the academic program, so that students are able to keep on learning even after they graduate.

Our Curriculum Structure

Scholastica provides a complete school-leaving course of study, from pre-school to the A' Levels. We have developed our own curriculum; it aims to deliver a holistic education program combining the core competencies of the national and the British curricula. The comprehensive curriculum designed for the elementary, secondary and high school classes ultimately leads to the University of Cambridge International Examinations Ordinary and Advanced Level General Certificate of Education exams, taught in the high school. These examinations are conducted under the auspices of the British Council, Dhaka.

The Early Years

In the Junior school, we encourage children to observe their surroundings, think independently, ask questions and freely express themselves without fear or inhibition, thereby honing their observation, listening, verbal and comprehension skills. We create an environment where students develop independence and creativity.

Students develop a love of learning through hands-on activities where they are given choice. They then grow in confidence as they apply learned skills in different contexts. The Bangla Literacy lab also helps children learn Bangla in a hands-on and enjoyable way.





In recent years, we have introduced center-based classrooms, where diverse activities are conducted to develop a range of important skills—communication skills, social skills, personal and emotional skills as well. Students get opportunities for physical education on a regular basis, as well as the creative arts. We have introduced a more play-based approach so that students’ natural curiosity and playful instincts are nurtured toward learning. These changes to our curriculum ensure that we build strong foundations for academics, and a love for learning, in all of our students.

The Middle Years

Our curriculum at this stage exposes students to more subjects in a formal classroom setting. The curriculum focuses on developing numeracy, literacy and an understanding of the environment and our surroundings. Learning in these classes is designed to develop positive attitudes.

Students learn not only from their texts but also from their surroundings. We encourage the students to open their eyes, to look around and acquire knowledge from their friends, their teachers and elders, and their environment.

As the students get older, our curriculum is designed to strengthen their foundation and begin their preparation for the public examinations they will take in high school.

High School

Scholastica’s O’ Level program encourages students to engage, invent, manage and compete – equipping them for eventual success in the public examinations under Cambridge International Examinations. Years of experience teaching the O’ Levels has allowed us to understand the requirements of the international examinations board – our mock results very closely mirror actual results received by our students.

The A’ Level Program provides a demanding, expansive educational experience to a select group of diverse, talented and intellectually sophisticated students. Through this program we aim to prepare our students for entry to the great universities of the world! Our excellent and experienced A’ Level faculty ensure that our students are given the best guidance for success at the A’ Level examinations.





O' Level and A' Level Pass rate (2017) Senior Campus, Uttara

| Exam | Total No. Students | Total No. Subjects | A* Grade | A Grade | B Grade | % of Passes | % of Top grades |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------|----------|---------|---------|-------------|-----------------|
| O' Level | 175 | 1225 | 193 | 507 | 315 | 99% | 83% |
| A' Level | 160 | 502 | 47 | 105 | 144 | 92% | 59% |

O' Level and A' Level Pass rate (2017) Senior Campus, Mirpur

| Exam | Total No. Students | Total No. Subjects | A* Grade | A Grade | B Grade | % of Passes | % of Top grades |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------|----------|---------|---------|-------------|-----------------|
| O' Level | 175 | 1225 | 283 | 470 | 314 | 99% | 87% |
| A' Level | 63 | 206 | 45 | 39 | 42 | 91% | 61% |

Languages at Scholastica

In Scholastica, we consider proficiency in both languages to be the cornerstone of a well-rounded education for the students of this nation.

বাংলার গুরুত্ব

ইংরেজি মাধ্যম স্কুল হলেও 'বাংলা' এ স্কুলে শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য একটি আবশ্যিক বিষয়। প্রাথমিক বাংলা ভাষার সাথে পরিচিতি শুরু করা হয় নার্সারী থেকে। বিভিন্ন শিক্ষামূলক আকর্ষণীয় পদ্ধতিতে বাংলাভাষার গল্প ছড়ার সাথে সাথে বর্ণমালার সাথে পরিচিত ঘটে নার্সারী ক্লাস থেকেই। পরে কিন্ডারগার্ডেন ক্লাসে বাংলা ল্যাভ ক্লাসের মাধ্যমে বর্ণমালার উপর পড়া, লেখা, শব্দ শিখা, গল্প পড়ার বিভিন্ন আকর্ষণীয় শিক্ষাপদ্ধতি প্রয়োগ করা হয় যা শিশুদের জন্য বিজ্ঞানসম্মতও। ১ম হতে ১০ম শ্রেণী পর্যন্ত বাংলা পড়ানো হয় এবং ও-লেভেল পরীক্ষার অন্যতম আবশ্যিক বিষয় হিসেবে ও-লেভেল পরীক্ষার্থীদের এ বিষয়টি গ্রহণ করতে হয়। সুতরাং অন্যান্য গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বিষয়ের মতই স্কলাস্টিকা 'বাংলা' বিষয়ের মান উন্নত রাখার জন্য সদা সচেষ্ট।

The study of both English and Bangla in Scholastica encourages the development of the four key language skills – speaking, listening, reading and writing. Emphasis is placed on applying the rules of language in order to enhance communication skills. Development of students' literary skills is also a very important way to equip them with the necessary tools of communication and expression. Students in Scholastica are required to read numerous novels every year, in order to expose them to a greater variety of genres, time periods, styles and authors.





The Maths and Sciences

Developing Mathematics skills each year along multiple strands helps students develop diverse mathematical insights and nurtures their strengths and talents. We consider competence in Mathematics to be a critical component of success in our school.

Mathematics is taught through the innovative use of resources and teaching aides.

Scholastica's curriculum promotes:

- Mathematical thinking through the use of problem-solving activities and tasks
- Visual thinking and ability to analyze data intelligently
- Investigating and making sense of mathematical problems
- Conceptual understanding
- Development of mental-maths skills

In a world filled with the products of scientific inquiry, scientific literacy has also become a necessity for everyone. Scholastica's Science Program embodies a vision of a scientifically literate populace. Our program aims to:

- Stimulate students' interest in scientific investigation
- Promote a basic understanding and awareness of science
- Allow students to make informed, rational and justifiable decisions based on observed data

Scholastica holds the distinction of being the first school in Bangladesh to conduct laboratory classes at the V-VIII level. We now have a rich laboratory program for students from class V-XII.

The Arts and Physical Education

At Scholastica, we recognize that students must develop skills and an appreciation for visual and performing arts, as well as physical education, in order to grow holistically as 'complete' individuals.

Our art, music and drama programs not only build the skills that are necessary to perform and produce art, but they also grow an aesthetic and creative sensibility, develop understanding of important historical genres, artists and works of art, music or theater, and teach students how to talk about the arts analytically and with appreciation. In the high school, our Media Studies curriculum exposes students to the different types of media and its influence on daily life; the impact of media on social consciousness, and media literacy as a 21st century approach to education.





Physical education is a mandatory component of our academic program. Our students are not only given basic skills in physical fitness and in a range of different sports, but they are also taught about maintaining their health and well-being. By playing various competitive sports, students develop teamwork skills, as well as discipline. Regular physical education classes are designed from the very early years of education based on an understanding that physical health forms the basis for good mental and intellectual health.

Educational Resources

Scholastica has invested in numerous resources to enhance the educational experience and improve teaching and learning in all our campuses.

We have begun to incorporate technology into our classrooms: we have installed the DigiClass system in our senior and middle school classrooms. DigiClass is an award-winning multimedia-enabled teaching solution. DigiClass incorporates an interactive whiteboard, computer, projector and a preloaded content repository that are designed to make the classroom session more engaging and collaborative.

Scholastica also maintains a rich library in every campus, with over 35,000 books and audio-visual resources. In addition, we have a resource center on every campus which houses hundreds of educational resources for teachers to use in the classroom—3D models, all kinds of globes, atlases and models, scientific equipment and tools, and a range of visual resources such as charts and photographs. All these resources are used by teachers on a regular basis to make connections between lessons and the real-world.

Special Education Program

All children should be entitled to a broad, balanced and purposeful curriculum and Scholastica is committed to ensuring all students can achieve at their highest potential. Some children have varying needs that may require them to be given extra attention in order to keep up with the standard set by the school. Scholastica has developed, therefore, a Special Education Program, which is a set of policies and planned activities, based on global best principles and practices, to cater to the special educational needs of students in Scholastica. In many cases, these students are asked to attend specialized classes (called “Skills Labs”), which are small and allow very close teacher-student interaction. In this way, students who are below the standard of the class are given special attention to build their skills and achieve academic success up to their full potential.





Extra Curricular Activities, After-school Clubs and Events

Scholastica provides many opportunities for students to excel beyond the classroom, in activities that span a full range of co-curricular pursuits.

Events and Activities Beyond the Classroom

We emphasize the development of skills and interests outside the classroom through numerous extra-curricular activities. These include participation in cultural events, art competitions and performances, concerts, fairs, festivals, exhibitions, community service projects, science fairs, leadership opportunities, international trips, and sports competitions. Additional programs for older students, such as Boy Scouts and the Duke of Edinburgh Award program, encourage our students to broaden their horizons and build leadership skills. School events that commemorate our cultural and national heritage include Shaheed Dibash, Independence Day, Victory Day, Eid-E-Miladunnabi, Pahela Baishakh, and International Mother Language Day.

Other events also take place, including an annual play and all kinds of academic competitions. Scholastica bags prestigious academic awards in debate, quizzes, Maths Olympiads, Chemistry Olympiads and international academic competitions. Inter-class quiz competitions are held on a regular basis.

Encouraging Stellar Athletes

We are particularly proud of our sports teams that have participated in countless tournaments and sporting events throughout Bangladesh, and the world, in countries such as Italy, India, Australia and Sweden. Scholastica's students challenge others in football, handball, basketball and cricket. Our sports teams are ranked among the best in Bangladesh and regularly attain top positions in interschool tournaments.

Building the Leaders of Tomorrow

In the Middle and Senior Schools, we offer students a variety of After-school Clubs and After-school Programs. These clubs and programs give students the skills necessary to develop into well-rounded and confident personalities to flourish in an ever-changing and demanding job market. All of these clubs and programs provide opportunities for team work, social skills development and the development of individual talents of our students.





Our Facilities

Custom-Built Campuses

We are proud of our two custom-built campuses. These facilities allow us to provide safe and comfortable environments for learning, as well as state-of-the-art infrastructure that rivals schools at a global level. Each campus has been carefully designed and provides numerous facilities for our faculty and students, including:

- Spacious and comfortable classrooms
- An indoor multipurpose hall, used for events, performances and sports
- Outdoor hard-courts that host sports tournaments throughout the year
- Fully equipped labs for biology, chemistry, physics and computer studies
- Library with access to the internet and printing, and teacher resource center
- Cafeteria and fully-operational canteen services
- Fully stocked bookshop and fee collection booth
- Our campus in Mirpur, more recently built, also houses a swimming pool!

Air-Conditioned Classrooms

All our classrooms are air-conditioned, allowing us to provide a comfortable and quiet environment for teaching and learning.

Safety and Security on Campus

The welfare and wellbeing of students starts with ensuring a safe and secure environment. To enforce day-to-day safety and security within the school premises the following measures are taken:

- Full-time security personnel to ensure round the clock security in each campus.
- Metal detectors and archways are used for checking visitors at the entrance points.
- Use of ID cards is compulsory for all employees and students.
- Visitors are confirmed through prior appointment of management and are not allowed to bring bags onto campus.
- Only parents, guardians or authorized persons are allowed to pick up students.
- All school sections are secured with high barbed wire fences.
- The school building and rooms are kept under lock and key after school hours.
- Each campus has a sick room and first aid facilities in convenient locations.





- Fire extinguishers are kept available for use and staff are trained to use them.
- First aid training is regularly given to all faculty and management. In addition, the larger campuses have qualified nurses to take care of students.
- Fire drills are conducted in all school campuses at regular intervals.

Full Power Generators in all Campuses

In order to ensure smooth power supply during school hours and to enhance the comfort of students, Scholastica provides full power generator support to all campuses.

Programs and Services

Including Parents in the School Community

We believe that parents' involvement in the school is an integral component in a child's success in school, and can make a significant contribution to the development and learning process of the students.

We stay in touch with parents through email and SMS for important notices and announcements. Every month a newsletter prepared by each campus is circulated to parents. In addition, every term the Chairperson's Newsletter shares important updates on policies, plans and significant news. Our website (www.scholasticabd.com) also provides information to the general public.

Of course, parents are always welcome to make appointments to visit the school and meet with teachers or management personnel to discuss any aspect of their child's education. We also regularly survey parents on important issues to get their feedback on opinions on new initiatives or current services.

Scholastica also has a Volunteer Parents Program which encourages parents to work closely with us on programs that enhance our educational services. In addition, parents are invited to come and observe their child in class, thereby providing an opportunity for them to enjoy a personal introduction to our teaching methodology and get a glimpse into their child's school day.





University Placement Services

The University Placement Services office (UPS) is committed to helping graduates to attend good universities all over the world. UPS makes students' decisions regarding university easier through a variety of services, including providing information about higher education institutions, counseling and certification. UPS invites various local and international university representatives, Scholastica alumni, foreign delegates, etc. to conduct information sessions. The office also conducts short courses designed to prepare students for university and beyond.

Our graduates have attended prestigious universities in the US including Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Stanford, and Brown, and renowned colleges and universities in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and within Bangladesh as well.

International Public Examinations

Scholastica is the first private English-medium school in Bangladesh to provide facilities for the British Council, Dhaka to hold the O' Level and A' Level examinations in its own premises. All arrangements are made by the British Council so that our students are able to take this important examination in their own campus, in STM Hall and in our labs.

Student Affairs Unit

The Student Affairs Unit is dedicated to the well-being of the students in terms of safety, comfort and happiness. In the middle and senior campuses, the unit helps students understand and deal with social, behavioral and personal issues. We are committed to providing personalized attention to all students through counseling and various mentoring and guidance programs. We have professional, qualified counselors who work with students one-on-one on a range of needs.

We also conduct programs to make students and parents aware about important life issues such as discipline and positive and ethical behavior. Awareness programs are offered for parents and for students, on topics such as drug resistance, safety and security, health and hygiene, good citizenship and building character.

We also believe that it is important to recognize the achievement and efforts of our students as a motivating factor for their success. Various methods of recognition are used, including issuance of certificates and letters, public recognition during assembly or award ceremonies, highlighting achievements in the Newsletter or Yearbook, and providing rewards over the course of the school year.





Curriculum Development Unit

Scholastica's Curriculum Development Unit (CDU) is an independent department that oversees the academic program. We spend a lot of time thinking about what to teach our students. We work hard to upgrade what to teach, how to teach and when to teach. CDU learns and conducts research into international best practices and then works closely with the academic team and teachers to implement these teaching methods and ideas. We also improve textbooks and the large range of education aides and resources that make learning fun. CDU also provides training to teachers to enhance their skills in the long-term. We want to ensure that a high standard of education is delivered uniformly at all levels.

Faculty & Management Development

Scholastica's teachers and management are some of the busiest educational professionals in the country! We are committed to excellence and work hard to deliver the best to our students. High standards are maintained through intensive and comprehensive training programs. Close monitoring and supervision is provided to ensure modern teaching methods are followed.

Scholastica is the first school that has undertaken an initiative to certify all teachers within a few years of joining the school. We have engaged a professional training organization, SPEED, to conduct formal teacher training courses for our faculty. The members of the management and administration are also given training courses periodically.

Career Day and Internship Program

One of our central goals is to give our students the basic skills they need to excel beyond their academic careers. Therefore, Scholastica organizes career days where professionals from a broad range of fields present about their careers, and the path they took to enter into their career, as early as the junior and middle school. At the high school level, we organize an annual summer internship program in various well known corporate houses and non-government institutions.





Computerized Record-keeping

The Student Records Department maintains computerized records for every student, including contact information, detailed student information, and quarterly academic records. Scholastica has introduced System Generated Report Cards. With access to an electronic database of academic records, our management is able to conduct in-depth and comprehensive analysis of results, and therefore ensure the highest standards are always maintained.

Scholarship and Financial Assistance Program

Scholastica provides financial support for hundreds of students. The scholarship program disburses funds through two vehicles: merit-based scholarships and need-based financial assistance.

Alumni Association

The Scholastica Alumni Association (SAA) builds the special bond between fellow students and this great institution. The SAA is committed to bringing together all former Scholasticans who have conquered different corners of the globe. The SAA has been involved in community service, as well as organizing social events, cricket matches and plays. The alumni are invited to events on campus, to maintain their close bond to the school.

Transport Services

Scholastica offers transportation to students through STS, Scholastica Transport Services, a sister concern. STS provides air-conditioned bus services from different parts of the city for middle and senior school students. Stringent safety measures are in place to ensure students are transported to and from school comfortably and securely.

Cafeteria Services

The cafeteria in the Mirpur and Senior Section offers wholesome, delicious and hygienic food for students and staff alike. There is a spacious area with comfortable seating arrangements where high school students are able to relax during their free time.





General Information

Admissions

Playgroup Admissions: Application Forms are available from September for the next academic session which starts in July. Interview sessions are done immediately; therefore parents are advised to apply when the child is 2 ½ years old.

Nursery to IX Admissions: Application Forms are given out from January for the next July. The Admission testing starts in the spring.

A-Level Admissions: Application Forms are given out in June for the coming academic session. Admission is only offered if students meet minimum academic requirements.

Successful candidates who cannot be admitted are kept in the waiting list and are notified as and when vacancies arise.

School Year

The school year is divided into two terms that include four quarters. The First Term begins in July and the Second Term begins in January and ends in June.

Winter vacations, summer vacations and the two Eid vacations are the major scheduled vacations during the academic year.

Assessing Student Progress & Achievement

Assessments in Scholastica are based on ongoing coursework: written and oral work, class tests and assignments in each quarter. Performance in sports and co-curricular activities is also assessed regularly. Class Teacher's Reports are given twice a year, upon completion of the 1st and 3rd quarters. Report Cards are given two times a year, upon completion of each term. From Class IV onwards, exams are held twice a year, at the end of each term.

Contact Information

Website: www.scholasticabd.com

Senior Management Email Addresses:

Executive Office : chairperson@scholasticabd.com, managing_director@scholasticabd.com

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